

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AMENDMENTS TO H.C.R. 2024

(Reference to printed concurrent resolution)

Strike everything after the resolving clause and insert:

"1. Article VI, sections 12, 28, 30, 35, 37, 38, 40 and 41, Constitution of Arizona, are proposed to be amended as follows if approved by the voters and on proclamation of the Governor:

12. Superior court; term of office

Section 12. A. Judges of the superior court in counties having a population of less than ~~two~~ SIX hundred ~~fifty~~ thousand persons according to the most recent United States census shall be elected by the qualified electors of their counties at the general election. They shall hold office for a regular term of four years except as provided by this section from and after the first Monday in January next succeeding their election, and until their successors are elected and qualify. The names of all candidates for judge of the superior court in such counties shall be placed on the regular ballot without partisan or other designation except the division and title of the office.

B. The governor shall fill any vacancy in such counties by appointing a person to serve until the election and qualification of a successor. At the next succeeding general election following the appointment of a person to fill a vacancy, a judge shall be elected to serve for the remainder of the unexpired term.

Judges of the superior court in counties having a population of ~~two~~ SIX hundred ~~fifty~~ thousand persons or more according to the most recent United States census shall hold office for a regular term of four years except as provided by this article.

28. Justices and judges; dual office holding; political activity; practice of law

Section 28. Justices and judges of courts of record shall not be eligible for any other public office or for any other public employment

1 during their term of office, except that they may assume another  
2 judicial office, and upon qualifying therefor, the office formerly held  
3 shall become vacant. No justice or judge of any court of record shall  
4 practice law during his continuance in office, nor shall he hold any  
5 office in a political party or actively take part in any political  
6 campaign other than his own for his reelection or retention in office.

7 Any justice or judge who files nomination papers for an elective  
8 office, other than for judge of the superior court or a court of record  
9 inferior to the superior court in a county having a population of less  
10 than ~~two~~ SIX hundred ~~fifty~~ thousand persons according to the most  
11 recent United States census, forfeits his judicial office.

12 30. Courts of record

13 Section 30. A. The supreme court, the court of appeals and the  
14 superior court shall be courts of record. Other courts of record may  
15 be established by law, but justice courts shall not be courts of  
16 record.

17 B. All justices and judges of courts of record, except for  
18 judges of the superior court and other courts of record inferior to the  
19 superior court in counties having a population of less than ~~two~~ SIX  
20 hundred ~~fifty~~ thousand persons according to the most recent United  
21 States census, shall be appointed in the manner provided in section 37  
22 of this article.

23 35. Continuance in office; continued existence of offices;  
24 application of prior statute and rules

25 Section 35. A. All justices, judges, justices of the peace and  
26 officers of any court who are holding office as such by election or  
27 appointment at the time of the adoption of this section OR ANY  
28 AMENDMENT TO THIS SECTION shall serve or continue in office for the  
29 respective terms for which they are so elected or for their respective  
30 unexpired terms, and until their successors are elected or appointed  
31 and qualify or they are retained in office pursuant to section 38 of  
32 this article; ~~—provided, however,~~ EXCEPT that any justice or judge

1       elected at the general election at which this section is adopted shall  
2       serve for the term for which he is so elected. The continued existence  
3       of any office heretofore legally established or held shall not be  
4       abolished or repealed by the adoption of this article. The statutes  
5       and rules relating to the authority, jurisdiction, practice and  
6       procedure of courts, judicial officers and offices in force at the time  
7       of the adoption of this article and not inconsistent herewith, shall,  
8       so far as applicable, apply to and govern such courts, judicial  
9       officers and offices until amended or repealed.

10       B. All judges of the superior court holding office by  
11       appointment or retention in counties with a population of ~~two~~ SIX  
12       hundred ~~fifty~~ thousand persons or more according to the most recent  
13       United States census at the time of the adoption of this amendment OR  
14       ANY SUBSEQUENT AMENDMENT to this section shall serve or continue in  
15       office for the respective terms for which they were appointed. Upon an  
16       incumbent vacating the office of judge of the superior court, whether  
17       by failing to file a declaration for retention, by rejection by the  
18       qualified electors of the county or resignation, the appointment shall  
19       be pursuant to section 37 of this article.

20       37. Judicial vacancies and appointments; initial terms;  
21       residence; age

22       Section 37. A. Within sixty days from the occurrence of a  
23       vacancy in the office of a justice OF THE SUPREME COURT or A judge of  
24       ~~any~~ AN INTERMEDIATE APPELLATE court of record, ~~except for vacancies~~  
25       ~~occurring in the office of a judge of the superior court or a judge of~~  
26       ~~a court of record inferior to the superior court,~~ the commission on  
27       appellate court appointments, ~~if the vacancy is in the supreme court or~~  
28       ~~an intermediate appellate court of record,~~ shall submit to the governor  
29       the names of not less than three persons nominated by it to fill such  
30       vacancy, no more than two of whom shall be members of the same  
31       political party unless there are more than four such nominees, in which  
32       event not more than sixty ~~percentum~~ PER CENT of such nominees shall be

1 members of the same political party.

2 B. Within sixty days from the occurrence of a vacancy in the  
3 office of a judge of the superior court or a judge of a court of record  
4 inferior to the superior court except for vacancies occurring in the  
5 office of a judge of the superior court or a judge of a court of record  
6 inferior to the superior court in a county having a population of less  
7 than ~~two~~ SIX hundred ~~fifty~~ thousand persons according to the most  
8 recent United States census, the commission on trial court appointments  
9 for the county in which the vacancy occurs shall submit to the governor  
10 the names of not less than three persons nominated by it to fill such  
11 vacancy, no more than two of whom shall be members of the same  
12 political party unless there are more than four such nominees, in which  
13 event no more than sixty per ~~centum~~ CENT of such nominees shall be  
14 members of the same political party. A nominee shall be under sixty-  
15 five years of age at the time ~~his~~ THE NOMINEE'S name is submitted to  
16 the governor. Judges of the superior court shall be subject to  
17 retention or rejection by a vote of the qualified electors of the  
18 county from which they were appointed at the general election in the  
19 manner provided by section 38 of this article.

20 C. A vacancy in the office of a justice or a judge of such  
21 courts of record shall be filled by appointment by the governor without  
22 regard to political affiliation from one of the nominees whose names  
23 ~~shall be~~ ARE submitted to ~~him as hereinabove provided~~ THE GOVERNOR  
24 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION A OR B. In making the appointment, the governor  
25 shall consider the diversity of the state's population for an appellate  
26 court appointment and the diversity of the county's population for a  
27 trial court appointment, however, the primary consideration shall be  
28 merit. If the governor does not appoint one of such nominees to fill  
29 such vacancy within sixty days after their names are submitted to the  
30 governor by such commission, the chief justice of the supreme court  
31 forthwith shall appoint on the basis of merit alone without regard to  
32 political affiliation one of such nominees to fill such vacancy. If

1 such commission does not, within sixty days after such vacancy occurs,  
2 submit the names of nominees ~~as hereinabove provided~~ PURSUANT TO  
3 SUBSECTION A OR B, the governor shall have the power to appoint any  
4 qualified person to fill such vacancy at any time thereafter prior to  
5 the time the names of the nominees to fill such vacancy are submitted  
6 to the governor ~~as hereinabove provided~~ PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION A OR B.

7 Each justice or judge so appointed shall initially hold office for a  
8 term ending sixty days following the next regular general election  
9 after the expiration of a term of two years in office. Thereafter, the  
10 terms of justices or judges of the supreme court and the superior court  
11 shall be as provided by this article.

12 D. A person appointed to fill a vacancy on an intermediate  
13 appellate court or another court of record now existing or hereafter  
14 established by law shall have been a resident of the counties or county  
15 in which that vacancy exists for at least one year ~~prior to his~~ BEFORE  
16 THE PERSON'S appointment, in addition to possessing the other required  
17 qualifications. A nominee shall be under sixty-five years of age at  
18 the time ~~his~~ THE NOMINEE'S name is submitted to the governor.

19 38. Declaration of candidacy; form of judicial ballot,  
20 rejection and retention; failure to file declaration

21 Section 38. A. A justice or judge of the supreme court or an  
22 intermediate appellate court shall file in the office of the secretary  
23 of state, and a judge of the superior court or other court of record  
24 including such justices or judges who are holding office as such by  
25 election or appointment at the time of the adoption of this section OR  
26 ANY AMENDMENT TO THIS SECTION, except for judges of the superior court  
27 and other courts of record inferior to the superior court in counties  
28 having a population of less than ~~two~~ SIX hundred ~~fifty~~ thousand  
29 persons, ~~—~~ according to the United States census, shall file in the  
30 office of the clerk of the board of supervisors of the county in which  
31 he regularly sits and resides, not less than sixty nor more than ninety  
32 days ~~prior to~~ BEFORE the regular general election next preceding the

1 expiration of his term of office, a declaration of his desire to be  
2 retained in office, and the secretary of state shall certify to the  
3 several boards of supervisors the appropriate names of the candidate or  
4 candidates appearing on such declarations filed in his office.

5 B. The name of any justice or judge whose declaration is filed  
6 as provided in this section shall be placed on the appropriate official  
7 ballot at the next regular general election under a nonpartisan  
8 designation and in substantially the following form:

9 Shall \_\_\_\_\_, (Name of justice or judge) of the \_\_\_\_\_  
10 court be retained in office? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ (Mark X after one).

11 C. If a majority of those voting on the question votes "No,"  
12 ~~then,~~ upon the expiration of the term for which such justice or judge  
13 was serving, a vacancy shall exist, which shall be filled as provided  
14 by this article. If a majority of those voting on the question votes  
15 "Yes," such justice or judge shall remain in office for another term,  
16 subject to removal as provided by this constitution.

17 D. The votes shall be counted and canvassed and the result  
18 declared as in the case of state and county elections, whereupon a  
19 certificate of retention or rejection of the incumbent justice or judge  
20 shall be delivered to ~~him~~ THE INCUMBENT by the secretary of state or  
21 the clerk of the board of supervisors, as the case may be.

22 E. If a justice or judge fails to file a declaration of ~~his~~ THE  
23 JUSTICE'S OR JUDGE'S desire to be retained in office, as required by  
24 this section, ~~then-his~~ THE JUSTICE'S OR JUDGE'S office shall become  
25 vacant upon expiration of the term for which such justice or judge was  
26 serving.

27 40. Option for counties with less than six hundred thousand  
28 persons

29 Section 40. Notwithstanding any provision of this article to the  
30 contrary, any county having a population of less than ~~two~~ SIX hundred  
31 ~~fifty~~ thousand persons, according to the most recent United States  
32 census, may choose to select its judges of the superior court or of

1 courts of record inferior to the superior court as if it had a  
2 population of ~~two~~ SIX hundred ~~fifty~~ thousand or more persons. Such  
3 choice shall be determined by vote of the qualified electors of such  
4 county voting on the question at an election called for such purpose by  
5 resolution of the board of supervisors of such county. If such  
6 qualified electors approve, the provisions of sections 12, 28, 30, 35,  
7 ~~through~~ 37, 38, 39, 41 and 42 shall apply as if such county had a  
8 population of ~~two~~ SIX hundred ~~fifty~~ thousand persons or more.

9 41. Superior court divisions; commission on trial court  
10 appointments; membership; terms

11 A. Except as otherwise provided, judges of the superior court in  
12 counties having a population of ~~two~~ SIX hundred ~~fifty~~ thousand persons  
13 or more according to the most recent United States census shall hold  
14 office for a regular term of four years.

15 B. There shall be a nonpartisan commission on trial court  
16 appointments for each county having a population of ~~two~~ SIX hundred  
17 ~~fifty~~ thousand persons or more according to the most recent United  
18 States census which shall be composed of the following members:

19 1. The chief justice of the supreme court, who shall be the  
20 chairman of the commission. In the event of the absence or incapacity  
21 of the chairman the supreme court shall appoint a justice ~~thereof~~ OF  
22 THE SUPREME COURT to serve in ~~his~~ THE JUSTICE'S place and stead.

23 2. Five attorney members, none of whom shall reside in the same  
24 supervisorial district and not more than three of whom shall be members  
25 of the same political party, who are nominated by the board of  
26 governors of the state bar of Arizona and who are appointed by the  
27 governor subject to confirmation by the senate in the manner prescribed  
28 by law.

29 3. Ten nonattorney members, no more than two of whom shall  
30 reside in the same supervisorial district.

31 C. At least ninety days ~~prior to~~ BEFORE a term expiring or  
32 within twenty-one days of a vacancy occurring for a nonattorney member

1 on the commission for trial court appointments, the member of the board  
2 of supervisors from the district in which the vacancy has occurred  
3 shall appoint a nominating committee of seven members who reside in the  
4 district, not more than four of whom may be from the same political  
5 party. The ~~make-up~~ MAKEUP of the committee ~~shall~~, to the extent  
6 feasible, SHALL reflect the diversity of the population of the  
7 district. Members shall not be attorneys and shall not hold any  
8 governmental office, elective or appointive, for profit. The committee  
9 shall provide public notice that a vacancy exists and shall solicit,  
10 review and forward to the governor all applications along with the  
11 committee's recommendations for appointment. The governor shall  
12 appoint two persons from each supervisorial district who shall not be  
13 of the same political party, subject to confirmation by the senate in  
14 the manner prescribed by law.

15 D. In making or confirming appointments to trial court  
16 commissions, the governor, the senate and the state bar shall endeavor  
17 to see that the commission reflects the diversity of the county's  
18 population.

19 E. Members of the commission shall serve staggered four year  
20 terms. ~~, except that initial appointments for the five additional~~  
21 ~~nonattorney members and the two additional attorney members of the~~  
22 ~~commission shall be designated by the governor as follows:~~

23 ~~1. One appointment for a nonattorney member shall be for a one-~~  
24 ~~year term.~~

25 ~~2. Two appointments for nonattorney members shall be for a two-~~  
26 ~~year term.~~

27 ~~3. Two appointments for nonattorney members shall be for a~~  
28 ~~three year term.~~

29 ~~4. One appointment for an attorney member shall be for a one-~~  
30 ~~year term.~~

31 ~~5. One appointment for an attorney member shall be for a two-~~  
32 ~~year term.~~



1           F. Vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired terms in the same  
2 manner as the original appointments.

3           G. Attorney members of the commission shall have resided in this  
4 state and shall have been admitted to practice in this state by the  
5 supreme court for at least five years and shall have resided in the  
6 supervisorial district from which they are appointed for at least one  
7 year. Nonattorney members shall have resided in this state for at  
8 least five years, shall have resided in the supervisorial district for  
9 at least one year before being nominated and shall not be judges,  
10 retired judges ~~nor~~ OR admitted to practice before the supreme  
11 court. None of the attorney or nonattorney members of the commission  
12 shall hold any governmental office, elective or appointive, for profit  
13 and no attorney member is eligible for appointment to any judicial  
14 office of this state until one year after membership in the commission  
15 terminates.

16           H. No person other than the chief justice shall serve at the  
17 same time as a member of more than one judicial appointment commission.

18           I. The commission shall submit the names of not less than three  
19 individuals for nomination for the office of ~~the~~ superior court judge  
20 pursuant to section 37 of this article.

21           J. Prior to making recommendations to the governor, the  
22 commission shall conduct investigations, hold public hearings and take  
23 public testimony. An executive session as prescribed by rule may be  
24 held upon a two-thirds vote of the members of the commission in a  
25 public hearing. Final decisions as to recommendations shall be made  
26 without regard to political affiliation in an impartial and objective  
27 manner. The commission shall consider the diversity of the county's  
28 population and the geographical distribution of the residences of the  
29 judges throughout the county, however the primary consideration shall  
30 be merit. Voting shall be in a public hearing. The expenses of  
31 meetings of the commission and the attendance of members thereof for  
32 travel and subsistence shall be paid from the general fund of the state

1 as state officers are paid, upon claims approved by the chairman.

2 K. After public hearings the supreme court shall adopt rules of  
3 procedure for the commission on trial court appointments.

4 ~~L. The members of the commission who were appointed pursuant to~~  
5 ~~section 36 of this article prior to the effective date of this section~~  
6 ~~may continue to serve until the expiration of their normal terms. All~~  
7 ~~subsequent appointments shall be made as prescribed by this section.~~

8 2. The Secretary of State shall submit this proposition to the voters at the  
9 next general election as provided by article XXI, Constitution of Arizona."

10 Amend title to conform

and, as so amended, it do pass

RUSSELL K. PEARCE  
Chairman

hcr2024-se-approp  
4/16/08  
H:jjb